

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1, 3-5, 8, 9, 11-13 and 15, CANCEL claims 2 and 10 and ADD new claim 16 in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A document examination apparatus, comprising:
an examination document storing unit which stores an electronic examination document in an examination document database;
an attribute information storing unit which stores attribute information of examiners responsible for examining to examine the examination document as in an attribute information database;
a selecting unit for allowing a requester to select ~~an examiner~~ a plurality of examiners based on the basis of the attribute information of examiners, and
an examination requesting unit which requests examination of the examination document to the examiner selected examiners by the a selecting unit through a network;
a first browsing unit disposed at examiners' side for displaying the examination document;
a collecting unit which collects examination results of the examination conducted by the examiners;
a second browsing unit disposed at a requester's side for displaying the examination results in a examination result list; and
a controller for displaying the examination result list at the first browsing unit allowing the examiner to refer to the examination result list.
2. (CANCELLED)
3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The document examination apparatus according to claim 21, in which the examination document storing unit sets ~~the a~~ a degree of importance of the examination document corresponding to the attribute information of examiners, and the examination document browsing unit controls permission or prohibition of browsing depending

on the degree of importance.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The document examination apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising an urging unit which checks the status of collection of the examination result, and urges for an examination to the examiner in charge before and after the preset collection period.

5. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The document examination apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising an examination result storing unit which attaches an XML tag to every phrase in the collected examination result, and stores the examination result as an examination result database; and

a summary result browsing unit which sums up the examination results stored in the examination result database, and allowing the requester to browse the summary result.

6. (ORIGINAL) The document examination apparatus according to claim 1, in which the examination document storing unit stores at least the file of the examination documents converted into an XML file in the examination document database.

7. (ORIGINAL) The document examination apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a model presenting unit which presents an examination document stored in the examination document database as a model when compiling the examination document.

8. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A document examination method, comprising the steps of:

storing an electronic examination document in an examination document database,
storing attribute information of examiners ~~responsible for examining~~ to examine the examination document in an attribute information database;

allowing a requester to select ~~an examiner~~ a plurality of examiners based on the basis of the attribute information of the examiners; and

requesting examination of the examination document to the selected ~~examiner~~ examiners through a network;

displaying the examination document at an examiners' side;

collecting examination results of the examination conducted by the examiners;

displaying the examination results in a examination result list at a requester's side; and

displaying the examination result list at the examiners' side for allowing the examiner to refer to the examination result list.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer program containing instructions, which when executed on a computer, causes the computer to perform the steps-operations of:
storing an electronic examination document in an examination document database,
storing attribute information of examiners ~~responsible for examining~~to examine the examination document in an attribute information database,
allowing a requester to select an ~~examiner~~a plurality of examiners on the basis of the attribute information of ~~the examiners;~~and
requesting examination of the examination document to the selected ~~examiner~~examiners through a network;
displaying the examination document at an examiners' side;
collecting examination results of the examination conducted by the examiners;
displaying the examination results in a examination result list at a requester's side; and
displaying the examination result list at the examiners' side for allowing the examiner to refer to the examination result list.

10. (CANCELLED)

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer program according to claim 409, wherein when storing the examination document, a degree of importance of the examination document is set corresponding to the attribute information of examiners, and a permission for browsing is given in accordance with the degree of importance.

12. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer program according to claim 409, causing the computer to further perform the step an operation of checking the status of collection of the examination result, and urging examination to the examiner in charge before and after the preset collection period.

13. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer program according to claim 409, causing the computer to further perform the steps-operations of:
attaching an XML tag to every phrase in the collected examination result;
storing the examination result in an examination result database;

summing up the examination results stored in the examination result database; and
allowing the requester to browse the summary result.

14. (ORIGINAL) The computer program according to claim 9, wherein at least the file of the examination documents converted into an XML file is stored in the examination document database.

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The computer program according to claim 9, causing the computer to further perform the step-operation of presenting an examination document stored in the examination document database as a model when compiling the examination document.

16. (NEW) A document examination method, comprising:
storing an electronic examination document and storing attribute information of examiners to examine the examination document;
receiving a selection of a number of examiners based on the attribute information corresponding to the examiners from a requester; and
requesting examination of the examination document by the selected number of examiners, where examination results of the examination document is collected and displayed to both the requester and the selected number of examiners.